

NOTABLE DEATHS

ALONZO ABERNETHY was born in Sandusky, Ohio, April 14, 1836; he died at Tampa, Florida, February 21, 1915. In 1839 he removed with his father's family to Bellevue, Ohio, where his early boyhood was spent working on a farm and attending school. In 1854 they removed to Illyria, Iowa, where he taught school. Later he attended Burlington Academy and Chicago University. In 1861 he left his studies of the senior year to enlist as a private in Company F, Ninth Iowa Infantry. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Chickasaw Bayou, Jackson, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and many other important engagements, and was rapidly promoted to lieutenant colonel. He was mustered out July 18, 1865. He represented Fayette county in the House of the Eleventh General Assembly, and was especially active in the revision and perfecting of the school laws. In 1869 he removed to Denison and engaged in farming. The following year he became principal of the University of Des Moines. After nine months' energetic service he accepted the position of state superintendent of public instruction. He was twice re-elected and served until 1876 when he resigned to accept the presidency of the Chicago University which he held for two years. Following a European trip, he returned to his farm at Denison. In 1881 he accepted the presidency of the Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage to which he gave twenty-one years of service, leaving it transformed to a well-located, well-endowed permanently useful institution. In 1909 he located in Des Moines, spending part of each year in Florida where he had business interests. Colonel Abernethy received the degree of A.B. from the University of Chicago in 1866 and of Ph.D. from Lenox College in 1886. He took great interest in the educational interests of the Baptist denomination in Iowa, and was constantly in demand as a speaker before institutes of farmers, teachers, etc. He was secretary of the Iowa Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge Monument Commission, and a member of the board of regents of the State University of Iowa from 1890-1909. He was the author of "Iowa under Territorial Government and the Removal of the Indians," "History of Iowa Baptist Schools," "Glimpses of Abraham Lincoln," and editor of Whitman's "Early Life of Jesus and New Light on Passion Week."

EMLIN McCLAIN was born in Salem, Ohio, November 26, 1851; he died at Iowa City, Iowa, May 25, 1915. He removed with his parents to Tipton, Iowa, in 1855. His early education was supplemented

by a year in Wilton Academy. He then entered the State University of Iowa and graduated with the class of 1871. The next year he taught in the Iowa City Academy, which was established by his father, and continued his studies in the university. Later he entered the law department of the State University and graduated in 1873. He removed to Des Moines and pursued his study of law in the law office of Wright, Gatch & Wright, became private secretary for Senator Wright, and served two terms as clerk of the United States senate committee on claims, of which Senator Wright was chairman. In 1877 he returned to Des Moines and practiced law for five years, also prepared and published McClain's Annotated Statutes of Iowa. In 1881 he was appointed professor in the law department of the State University of Iowa, and removed to Iowa City. In 1890 he was made dean of that department, with the title of Chancellor, and held the position until 1900. He was elected to the supreme bench in November, 1900, and in 1906, his two terms of service extending to 1913. He was chief justice for 1906 and 1912. In 1913 he removed to California, as professor of law in Leland Stanford, Jr., University. Returning to Iowa in 1914, he was again appointed dean of the college of law in the State University, in which position he was serving at the time of his death. He served as Iowa commissioner on uniform legislation, 1894; was one of the commissioners appointed to prepare the Iowa Code of 1897, and also prepared the annotations for that Code. Judge McClain was a member of the American Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, Beta Theta Pi, Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Delta Phi, and an honorary member of the State Bar Associations of Illinois and Kentucky, American Society of International Law and American Geographical Society. He was the author of Outlines of Criminal Law and Procedure, Synopsis of Elementary Law and Law of Personal Property, Digest of Iowa, Reports and Supplements thereto, Constitutional Law in the United States and many other works of a legal nature.

CYRUS BUSSEY was born in Hubbard, Ohio, October 5, 1833; he died at Washington, D. C., March 2, 1915. When but four years of age he removed with his father to Indiana. At fourteen he became clerk in a drygoods store at Dupont, Indiana, and two years later began business for himself. All his spare time was spent in hard study. In 1855 he removed to Bloomfield, Iowa, where he conducted a flourishing business and took active part in political and civic affairs. He represented Davis county in the Senate of the Eighth and Eighth Extra General Assemblies. He was a delegate to the Charleston convention and to the Baltimore convention which nominated Stephen A. Douglas for president. Although a Democrat in politics he supported Governor Kirkwood in all war measures and was appointed aide-de-camp on his staff. He organized a com-

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.